

*a'* - Figure 9, shows in a flow chart, a process of a preferred embodiment of the disclosed method. -

In the Claims,

*/* Cancel Claim 1 and add new Claim 14 in substitution of Claim 1, as follows.

Claim 14 (New). A method of using a finger pad shield placed in contact with the finger pad of a bowler's finger inserted into a finger hole of a bowling ball, to reduce the pressure on the finger pad when releasing said bowling ball from said bowler's finger and to improve a bowler's control over a direction or spin on a bowling ball, when lifting the bowling ball to impart spin and velocity, at release, comprising the steps of:

*a2*

- a. placing a finger pad shield having a first surface, and a second surface opposed to said first surface, on a finger pad of a bowler, with said first surface in contact with said finger pad of a bowler and forming a contact area made between said finger pad of a bowler and said first surface of said finger pad shield;
- b. inserting said finger pad shield, in a finger hole of a bowling ball;
- c. said step b, of inserting said finger pad shield in said finger hole of a bowling ball, including the step of placing said second surface of said finger pad shield, in contact with an interior surface of said finger hole of a bowling ball;
- d. releasing said finger pad of a bowler and said finger pad shield from said finger hole of a bowling ball by applying a first force from said finger pad of a bowler in a first direction against said first surface of said finger pad shield, through said finger pad shield to said second surface of said finger pad shield, against said interior surface of

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said finger hole of a bowling ball, to lift said bowling ball and producing a second force in a second direction, from said interior surface of said finger hole of a bowling ball, against said second surface of said finger pad shield;

e. said step d, of releasing said finger pad of a bowler and said finger pad shield from said finger hole of a bowling ball, includes the step of receiving said second force in said second direction, from said interior surface of said finger hole of a bowling ball, against said second surface of said finger pad shield, through said finger pad shield to said first surface of said finger pad shield and over said contact area made between said finger pad of a bowler and said first surface of said finger pad shield; and

Cont.

f. said step e, of receiving said second force in said second direction from said interior surface of said finger hole of a bowling ball, against said second surface of said finger pad shield, includes the step of distributing said second force, in said second direction from said interior surface of said finger hole of a bowling ball, against said second surface of said finger pad shield, over said contact area made between said finger pad of a bowler and said first surface of said finger pad shield, for reducing a pressure over said contact area made between said finger pad of a bowler and said first surface of said finger pad shield, produced by said second force, in a second direction from said interior surface of said finger hole of a bowling ball, against said second surface of said finger pad shield.

[Cancel Claim 2 and add new Claim 15 in substitution for cancelled Claim 2, as follows.]

Claim 15. The method of claim 14, wherein, said step d, of releasing said finger pad of a bowler and said finger pad shield from said finger hole of a bowling ball by applying a first force from said finger pad of a bowler in a first direction against said first surface of said finger pad shield, through said finger pad shield to said second surface of said

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finger pad shield, against said interior surface of said finger hole of a bowling ball to, to lift said bowling ball, includes the step g, of applying a maximum natural force a bowler is capable of producing from said finger pad of a bowler, in a first direction against said first surface of said finger pad shield, through said finger pad shield to said second surface of said finger pad shield, against said interior surface of said finger hole of a bowling ball, and producing said second force in said second direction, from said interior surface of said finger hole of a bowling ball, against said second surface of said finger pad shield, and wherein said finger pad shield is rigid for distributing said second force in said second direction, from said interior surface of said finger hole of a bowling ball, against said second surface of said finger pad shield, over said contact area made between said finger pad of a bowler and said first surface of said finger pad shield.

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Amend Claim 3, as follows.

In line 1, delete "1" and insert therefore –14–.

*Cancel* Claim 6 and add new claim 16 in substitution for cancelled Claim 6, as follows.

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Claim 16 (New) The method of claim 14, wherein said step f, of receiving said second force in said second direction from said interior surface of said finger hole of a bowling ball, against said second surface of said finger pad shield, and distributing said second force, in said second direction from said interior surface of said finger hole of a bowling ball, against said second surface of said finger pad shield, over said contact area made between said bowler's finger pad and said first surface of said finger pad shield, for reducing said pressure on said contact area, includes the step h, of distributing said second force in said second direction from said interior surface of said finger hole of a bowling ball, against said second surface of said finger pad shield over the widest area of said contact area for preventing pressure spots within said

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bowler's finger pad.

Amend Claim 4 as follows.

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Claim 4 (Amended). The method of claim [1] 14 including the step of controlling the depth of insertion of said finger pad shield in said finger [grip] hole of a bowling ball by engaging a raised surface connected to said finger pad shield and extending away from said finger pad shield, with the surface of [the] said bowling ball to limit the depth of insertion of said finger pad shield into said [bowling ball] finger hole of a bowling ball.

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Cancel Claims 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13.]

Add new Claim 17 as follows.

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Claim 17 (New). The method of Claim 14, wherein said step f, of receiving said second force in said second direction from said interior surface of said finger hole of a bowling ball, against said second surface of said finger pad shield, and distributing said second force, in said second direction from said interior surface of said finger hole of a bowling ball, against said second surface of said finger pad shield, over said contact area made between said bowler's finger pad and said first surface of said finger pad shield, for reducing said pressure over said contact area made between said bowler's finger pad and said first surface of said finger pad shield, produced by said second force, in said second direction, from said interior surface of said finger hole of a bowling ball, against said second surface of said finger pad shield. includes the step i, of distributing said second force, in said second direction from said finger hole of a bowling ball, against said second surface of said finger pad shield, over said contact area made between said bowler's finger pad and said first surface of said finger pad shield, for reducing said pressure substantially within said contact area made between said bowler's finger pad and said first surface of said finger pad shield.

Add new Claim 18 as follows.

Claim 18 (New). The method of Claim 14, wherein said step f, of receiving said second force in said second direction from said finger hole of a bowling ball, against said second surface of said finger pad shield, and distributing said second force, in said second direction from said interior surface of said finger hole of a bowling ball, against said second surface of said finger pad shield, over said contact area made between said bowler's finger pad and said first surface of said finger pad shield, for reducing said pressure over said contact area, produced by said second force, in said second direction, from said interior surface of said finger hole of a bowling ball, against said second surface of said finger pad shield, includes the step j, of distributing said second force, in said second direction from said interior surface of said finger hole of a bowling ball, against said second surface of said finger pad shield, over said contact area made between said bowler's finger pad and said first surface of said finger pad shield, for reducing said pressure over said contact area made between said bowler's finger pad and said first surface of said finger pad shield, substantially uniformly.

Add new Claim 19, as follows.

Claim 19 (New). The method of Claim 15, wherein, said step f, of receiving said second force in said second direction from said interior surface of said finger hole of a bowling ball, against said second surface of said finger pad shield, and distributing said second force, in said second direction from said interior surface of said finger hole of a bowling ball, against said second surface of said finger pad shield, over said contact area made between said bowler's finger pad and said first surface of said finger pad shield, for reducing said pressure on said contact area made between said bowler's finger pad and said first surface of said finger pad shield, produced by said second force, in said second direction, from said interior surface of said finger hole of a

bowling ball, against said second surface of said finger pad shield. includes the step k, of distributing said second force, in said second direction from said interior surface of said finger hole of a bowling ball, against said second surface of said finger pad shield, over said contact area made between said bowler's finger pad and said first surface of said finger pad shield, for reducing said pressure substantially within said contact area made between said bowler's finger pad and said first surface of said finger pad shield.

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[Add new Claim 20, as follows.]

Claim 20 (New). The method of Claim 15, wherein said step f, of receiving said second force in said second direction from said interior surface of said finger hole of a bowling ball, against said second surface of said finger pad shield, and distributing said second force, in said second direction from said interior surface of said finger hole of a bowling ball, against said second surface of said finger pad shield, over said contact area made between said bowler's finger pad and said first surface of said finger pad shield, for reducing said pressure on said contact area, produced by said second force, in said second direction, from said interior surface of said finger hole of a bowling ball, against said second surface of said finger pad shield. includes the step l, of distributing said second force, in said second direction from said interior surface of said finger hole of a bowling ball, against said second surface of said finger pad shield, over said contact area made between said bowler's finger pad and said first surface of said finger pad shield, for reducing said pressure within said contact area made between said bowler's finger pad and said first surface of said finger pad shield, substantially uniformly..

[Add new Claim 21 as follows.]

Claim 21 (New). A method of using a finger pad shield placed in contact with the finger pad of a bowler's middle finger inserted into a finger hole of a bowling ball, to reduce

the pressure on the finger pad when releasing said bowling ball from said bowler's finger and to improve a bowler's control over a direction or spin on a bowling ball, when lifting the bowling ball to impart spin and velocity, at release, comprising the steps of:

a. placing a finger pad shield having a first surface, and a second surface opposed to said first surface, on a finger pad of a middle finger of a bowler and forming a contact area made between said finger pad of a middle finger of a bowler and said first surface of said finger pad shield;

b. inserting said finger pad shield, in a finger hole of a bowling ball;

c. said step b, of inserting said finger pad shield in said finger hole of a bowling ball , including the step of placing said second surface of said finger pad shield, in contact with an interior surface of said finger hole of a bowling ball;

d. releasing said finger pad shield from said finger hole of a bowling ball by applying a first force from said finger pad of a middle finger of a bowler, in a first direction against said first surface of said finger pad shield, through said finger pad shield to said second surface of said finger pad shield, against said interior surface of said finger hole of a bowling ball, to lift said bowling ball, and producing a second force in a second direction, from said interior surface of said finger hole of a bowling ball, against said second surface of said finger pad shield; and

e. said step d, of releasing said finger pad shield from said finger hole of a bowling ball, includes the step of receiving said second force in said second direction, from said interior surface of said finger hole of a bowling ball, against said second surface of said finger pad shield and through said finger pad shield to said first surface of said finger pad shield and over said contact area made between said finger pad of a middle finger of a bowler and said first surface of said finger pad shield; and

f. said step e. of receiving said second force in said second direction from said interior surface of said finger hole of a bowling ball, against said second surface of said finger pad shield, includes the step of distributing said second force, in said second direction from said interior surface of said finger hole of a bowling ball, against said second surface of said finger pad shield, over said contact area made between said finger pad of a middle finger of a bowler and said first surface of said finger pad shield, for reducing a pressure over said contact area made between said finger pad of a middle finger of a bowler and said first surface of said finger pad shield, produced by said second force, in said second direction, from said interior surface of said finger hole of a bowling ball, against said second surface of said finger pad shield.

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cont.

[Add new Claim 22, as follows]

Claim 22 (New). The method of claim 21, wherein, said step d, of releasing said finger pad shield from said finger hole of a bowling ball by applying a first force from said finger pad of a middle finger of a bowler, in a first direction against said first surface of said finger pad shield, through said finger pad shield to said second surface of said finger pad shield, against said interior surface of said finger hole of a bowling ball to, to lift said bowling ball, includes the step h. of applying a maximum natural force a bowler is capable of producing from said finger pad of a middle finger of a bowler, in a first direction against said first surface of said finger pad shield, through said finger pad shield to said second surface of said finger pad shield, against said interior surface of said finger hole of a bowling ball, and producing said second force in said second direction, from said interior surface of said finger hole of a bowling ball, against said second surface of said finger pad shield, and wherein said finger pad shield is rigid for distributing said second force in said second direction, from said interior surface of said finger hole of a bowling ball, against said second surface of said finger pad shield, over said contact area made between said finger pad of a middle finger of a bowler and said

first surface of said finger pad shield.

Add new claim 23, as follows.)

Claim 23 (New). A method of using a finger pad shield placed in contact with the finger pad of a bowler's finger inserted into a finger hole of a bowling ball, to reduce the pressure on the finger pad when releasing said bowling ball from said bowler's finger and to improve a bowler's control over a direction or spin on a bowling ball, when lifting the bowling ball to impart spin and velocity, at release, comprising the steps of:

a. placing a finger pad shield over a finger pad of a bowler, and forming a contact area;

b. placing said finger pad shield in contact with an interior wall of a finger hole of a bowling ball;

c. releasing said finger pad from said finger hole by applying a first force against said interior surface to lift said bowling ball and impart forward velocity to said bowling ball, and producing a second force from said interior surface against said finger pad shield;

d. said step c, of releasing, includes the step of receiving said second force over said contact area and distributing said second force over said contact area.

Add new claim 24, as follows.)

Claim 24 (New). The method of claim 23, wherein, said step c, of releasing, includes the step e, of applying a maximum natural force a bowler is capable of producing from said finger pad of a bowler, in a first direction against said interior surface to lift said bowling ball, and producing said second force, and wherein said finger pad shield is rigid for distributing said second force over said contact area..

Add new claim 25, as follows.)

Claim 25 (New). The method of claim 23, wherein said step d, of receiving and distributing said second force over said contact area, includes the step f, of distributing said second force, over the widest area of said contact area for preventing pressure spots within said bowler's finger pad.

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[Add new claim 26, as follows]

Claim 26 (New). The method of claim 23, including the step g, of controlling the depth of insertion of said finger pad shield in said finger hole of a bowling ball by engaging a raised surface connected to said finger pad shield and extending away from said finger pad shield, with the surface of said bowling ball to limit the depth of insertion of said finger pad shield into said finger hole of a bowling ball..

[Add new claim 27, as follows.]

Claim 27. (New) The method of Claim 23, wherein said step d, of receiving and distributing said second force over said contact area, includes the step h, of distributing said second force over said contact area for reducing said pressure substantially within said contact area.

[Add new claim 28, as follows.]

Claim 28 (New) The method of Claim 23, wherein said step d, of receiving and distributing said second force over said contact area, includes the step i, of distributing said second force over said contact area, substantially uniformly.

[Add new claim 29, as follows.]

Claim 29 (New) The method of Claim 24, wherein, said step d, of receiving and distributing said second force over said contact area includes the step j, of distributing said second force substantially within said contact area

[Add new claim 30,, as follows.]